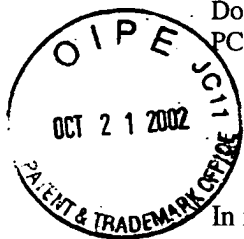


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## SPINAL BONE IMPLANT

October 18, 2002

Hon. Assistant Secretary and  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D. C. 20231

In response to the Office Action dated 02 July 2002, please consider the following. Enclosed herewith is a petition for extension of time and extension fee for one month. Please provide any additional extensions of time which may be necessary and charge any fees which may be due to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

**Date of Signature**

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